

His Majesties  
 Most gracious  
**ANSWER**  
 TO THE  
**VOTES**  
 Of the two Houses  
 OF  
**PARLIAMENT:**

Presented to Him at *Carisbrook* Castle,  
 by the Right Honourable the Earle  
 of *Middlesex*; Sir *Io. Hipsley* Knight;  
 and *John Bulkeley* Esquier, on Munday  
 the 7th of this present,  
*August, 1648.*

In order to a *Personall Treaty* for the settling a safe  
 and a well grounded Peace.

LONDON,  
 Printed *August 15. 1648.*

Les Malles



Les Malles  
Catherine  
Roi  
Honi soit qui mal y pense

1400 10  
1400 10



The Kings most gracious Answer to  
the Votes of both Houses of Parliament ;

In order to a Personall Treaty, for the settling of a  
safe and a well grounded Peace.

*Carisbrook Castle 10 August 1648.*



**I**F the Peace of my Dominions  
were not much dearer to mee,  
then any particular Interest  
whatsoever; I had too much  
reason to take notice of the se-  
verall Votes which passed against me, and  
the sad condition I have been in now above  
these seven Moneths. But since you my  
two Houses of Parliament have opened (as  
it seemes to me) a faire beginning to a hap-  
py Peace, I shall heartily apply my selfe  
thereunto; and to that end, I will as clearly  
and shortly as I may, set you downe those  
things which I conceive necessary to this  
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bleſſed Worke, ſo that we together may remove all impediments, that may hinder a happy concluſion of this Treaty, which with all cheerfulneſſe I do embrace.

And to this wiſhed end, your ſelves have laid moſt excellent grounds: for what can I reaſonably expect more, then to Treat with Honour, Freedome, and Safety, upon ſuch Propoſitions as you have or ſhall preſent unto me, and ſuch as I ſhall make to you? But withall remember, that it is the definition, not names of things which make them rightly known; And that without means to perform, no Propoſition can take effect; And truly my preſent condition is ſuch, that I can no more Treat, then a blind-man judge of colours, or one run a race who hath both his feet faſt tide together; wherefore my firſt neceſſary demand is,

That you will recall all ſuch Votes and Orders, by which people are frighted from coming, writing, or ſpeaking freely to me.

Next, that ſuch men of all Professions, whom I ſhall ſend for, as of neceſſary uſe to me in this Treaty, may bee admitted to

wayt



wayt upon me; In a word, that I may be in the same state of freedom I was in when I was last at *Hampton Court*. And in deed lesse cannot in any reasonable measure make good those offers which you have made me by your Votes; for how can I treat with honour so long as people are terrifi'd with Votes and Orders against coming to speak, or write to mee; And am I honourably treated, so long as there is none about mee (except a Barber who came now with the Commissioners) that ever I named to wayt upon mee, Or with freedom, (untill I may call such unto me of whose services I shall have use in so great and difficult a work) And for safety (I speake not of my Person, having no apprehension that way) how can I judge to make a safe and well grounded Peace, untill I may know (without disguise) the true present State of all my Dominions, and particularly of all those whose Interests are necessarily concern'd in the Peace of these Kingdomes? which leads me naturally to the last necessary demand I shall make for the bringing of this Treaty to a happy end, which is,

That you alone, or you and I joyntly, do invite the *Scots* to send some Persons authorised by them to Treat upon such Propositions, as they shall make; for certainly the pulique and necessary Interesse they have in this great Settlement, is so clearly plain to all the world, that I believe no body will deny the necessity of their concurrence in this Treaty, in Order to a durable Peace. Wherefore I will onely say, that as I am King of both Nations, so will I yeild to none in either Kingdom for being truly and zealously affected for the Good and Honour of both; my resolution being never to be partiall for either, to the prejudice of the other.

Now as to the Place (because I conceive it to be rather a circumstanstiall then reall part of this Treaty, I shall not much insist upon it ) I name *Newport* in this Isle, yet the fervent zeale I have that a speedy end be put to these unhappy distractions, doth force me earnestly to desire you to consider what a great losse of time it will be to Treat so farre from the Body of my two Houses, when every small debate (of which doubleesse there will be many) must be transmitted to *Westminster* before it be concluded: And really I think (though to some it may seeme a paradox) that peoples minds will be much more apt to settle, seeing mee Treat in or neare *London*, then' in this Isle, because so long as I am here, it will never be believed by many, that I am really so free, as before this Treaty begin I expect to be : And so I leave and recommend this point

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point to your serious consideration ; And thus I have not only fully accepted of the Treaty, which you have proposed to mee by your Votes of the third of this Month ; but also given it all the furtherance that lies in me, by demanding the necessary meanes, for the effectuall performance thereof : All which are so necessarily employed by, though not particularly mentioned in your Votes, as I can no wayes doubt of your ready compliance with me herein ; I have now no more to say, but to conjure you, by all that is deare to Christians, Honest men, or good Patriots : that yee will make all the expedition possible to begin this happy work, by hasting down your Commissioners fully Authorized and well instructed, and by enabling mee ( as I have shewed you ) to Treat ; Praying the God of peace so to blesse our endeavors, that all my Dominions may speedily enjoy a safe and well-grounded Peace.

CHARLES R.

*To the Speaker of the Lords  
House pro tempore, to be com-  
municated to the Lords and  
Commons in the Parliament of  
England at Westminster.*





